Media Release

More than 25,000 Marylanders have enrolled so far in state health insurance marketplace for 2015 coverage

BALTIMORE (Nov. 25, 2014) — More than 25,000 Marylanders have enrolled in quality and affordable 2015 health coverage since the start of the second open enrollment period on Nov. 15.

"The new and improved health care shopping website is ready to help even more Marylanders access quality, affordable health care," Governor O'Malley said. "Because of the hard work of Secretary FitzGerald, Secretary Sharfstein, Carolyn Quattrocki and so many dedicated professionals, the system is working well. I encourage everyone to check it out at MarylandHealthConnection.gov."

With the successful launch of the upgraded MarylandHealthConnection.gov website, 25,780 individuals have enrolled, including 14,749 enrolled in qualified health plans and 11,031 in Medicaid. From Nov. 15 to Nov. 24, 32,744 consumer accounts were created; 29,546 calls were made to the Consumer Support Center, and 79,681 visited the application portal on the website.

"Maryland's upgraded marketplace website is running smoothly and ready to assist Marylanders in obtaining quality, affordable health coverage for 2015," Lt. Governor Brown said. "Our unwavering commitment has been to provide an effective and user-friendly marketplace that offers individuals and their families high-quality health insurance at an affordable price."

"The system is responding very well for users and navigators," said Dr. Joshua M. Sharfstein, chairman of the board of the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange.

Marylanders can browse, determine their eligibility for financial assistance, shop for plans, and enroll through the website. They can call the Consumer Support Center at 855-642-8572 (TTY: 855-642-8573). They can also get help through a large in-person consumer assistance network. This network includes navigators and authorized insurance brokers based throughout the state at locations and at events listed on MarylandHealthConnection.gov.

"The six regional Connector Entities, and hundreds of navigators and brokers have done a great job so far connecting people across the state. We know we have a big task ahead to reach everyone in need of quality, affordable health care coverage," said Carolyn Quattrocki, executive director of the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange.

Marylanders interested in affordable health coverage or who already have a plan through Maryland Health Connection must enroll by Dec. 18 for coverage that begins Jan. 1, 2015, with financial assistance if they qualify. Open enrollment continues until Feb. 15, 2015.

###

About the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange: The Maryland Health Benefit Exchange (MHBE) is a public corporation and independent unit of the State government established in April 2011 in accordance with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 (ACA). MHBE is responsible for the administration of Maryland Health Connection.

About Maryland Health Connection: Maryland Health Connection (MHC) is the state-based health insurance marketplace for individuals and families to compare and enroll in health insurance, as well as determine eligibility for Medicaid and other assistance programs, federal tax credits and cost-sharing reductions.